

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. - 17. (canceled).

18. (new): A hinge-lid box for a cigarette block (13) or other block-shaped articles as pack contents, comprising a box part (10), lid (11) which are connected to one another in a pivotable manner by a transverse linear articulation (22) in the region of a box rear wall (15), on the one hand, and of a lid rear wall (19), on the other hand, the box part (10) comprising a box front wall (14), box rear wall (15), box side walls (16) and base wall (17), and the lid (11) comprising a lid front wall (18), lid rear wall (19), lid side walls (20) and end wall (21), there being formed above the pack contents a free chamber (50, 51) which is bounded at least by the end wall (21), the lid front wall (18) and the lid rear wall (19), **characterized in that** the end wall (21) runs at a non-uniform distance from the pack contents (13) at least in one sub-region such that the chamber (50, 51) varies in height along the width of the hinge-lid pack.

19. (new): The hinge-lid box as claimed in Claim 18, **characterized in that** the end wall (21) comprises a plurality of differently configured or shaped regions, namely at least two side sections (25) that are directed toward the lid side walls (20), and a central section (26), with the side sections (25), on the one hand, and the central section (26), on the other hand, having different shapes and/or located in different planes.

20. (new): The hinge-lid box as claimed in Claim 18, **characterized in that** the end wall (21) as a whole or at least in its lateral regions has an arcuate configuration.

21. (new): The hinge-lid box as claimed in Claim 19, **characterized in that** lateral sub-regions of the end wall (21), namely the side sections (25), are configured as extensions of end tabs (27, 28) of inner lid side tabs (30).

22. (new): The hinge-lid box as claimed in Claim 18, **characterized in that** the end wall (21) is of at least double-layered design in the central section (26), specifically by virtue of a crosspiece (35) being arranged on the outside of end wall (21) and/or base wall (17), with end regions of the end tabs (27, 28) being fastened on an inner side of the crosspiece (35).

23. (new): The hinge-lid box as claimed in Claim 18, **characterized in that** the end wall (21) has rounded side sections (25) and a planar, transverse central section (26), with the side sections (25) being of at least partially elliptical design with a pronounced curvature in the region of the side walls (16, 20).

24. (new): The hinge-lid box as claimed in Claim 22, **characterized in that** the lid front wall (18) and lid rear wall (19) conform to the contour of the end wall (21) and base wall (17) and are connected to one another in the central region by the crosspiece (35).

25. (new): The hinge-lid box as claimed in Claim 22, **characterized in that** the end wall (21) in sub-regions outside the crosspiece (35) is supported on a free edge of the lid front wall (18) and lid rear wall (19) by means of a broadening (42) provided on the end tabs (27, 28).

26. (new): The hinge-lid box as claimed in Claim 18, **characterized in that**, in addition to the chamber (50) formed above the cigarette block (13) or, as an alternative to this chamber (50), a free chamber (51) is formed below the pack contents (3) on the base side, with a base wall (17) as well as box front wall (14) and box rear wall (15) being configured analogously to end wall (21) and/or lid front wall (18) and/or lid rear wall (19) in order to delimit the base-side chamber (51).

27. (new): The hinge-lid box as claimed in Claim 21, **characterized in that** the end wall (21) and/or base wall (17) comprise/comprises the two oblique side sections (25) and the horizontal or transverse central section (26), the oblique side sections (25) adjoining the side walls (20, 16), on the one hand, and the central section (26), on the other hand, at an obtuse angle in each case.

28. (new): The hinge-lid box as claimed in Claim 27, **characterized in that** the chamber (50), which is formed at least above the cigarette block (13), is of trapezoidal design in cross section.

29. (new): The hinge-lid box as claimed in Claim 28, **characterized in that** the end wall (21) as a whole, namely over its entire width, is directed obliquely in a roof-like shape and has a planar design.

30. (new): The hinge-lid box as claimed in Claim 29, **characterized in that** the end tabs (27, 28) are extended beyond the cigarette block (13) in the plane of the lid side wall (20) on at least one side and can be folded over into the oblique plane of the end wall (21) at a distance

above the cigarette block to form a peripheral edge (54, 55) and butt against said end wall on the inside.

31. (new): The hinge-lid box as claimed in Claim 21, **characterized in that** the end wall (21) and/or the base wall (17) are spaced apart from the pack contents by a smaller distance in a preferably central sub-region than in lateral regions such that the chamber (50) has lateral widenings or comprises two lateral sub-chambers.

32. (new): The hinge-lid box as claimed in claim 31, **characterized in that** the end tabs (27, 28) are extended beyond the cigarette block (13) in the plane of the lid side wall (20), are folded at an acute angle, and directed obliquely downward, in the region of the peripheral edge (54, 55), and have a horizontally folded end leg (52) on the inside of the crosspiece (35).

33. (new): The hinge-lid box as claimed in Claim 18, **characterized in that** end tabs (27, 28) of the lid side walls (20) and/or of the box side walls (16) butt against free peripheral edges of the lid front wall (18) and lid rear wall (19) and/or of the box front wall (14) and box rear wall (15), specifically by way of a broadening of the end wall (21) or base wall (17) and/or of the end tabs (27, 28) which is formed in the abutment region.